

Proclamation by the Governor.

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY, EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT. WHEREAS, IT HAS BEEN MADE KNOWN to me that THOMAS JENKINS, ANTHONY SMITH, and JOHN BISHOP, did, on the 19th day of August, 1865, in the County of Woodford, Ky., assault and beat JOHN J. WOODFORD, a colored man, in an aggravated manner, and did also commit the crime of robbery and rape upon the person of Mrs. Gray, in Mercer county, and they now are fugitives from justice and going at large.

Proclamation by the Governor.

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY, EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT. WHEREAS, IT HAS BEEN MADE KNOWN to me that JAMES M. BRYANT did, on the 19th day of April, 1865, in the County of Washington, in the State of Kentucky, assault and beat JOHN J. WOODFORD, a colored man, in an aggravated manner, and did also commit the crime of robbery and rape upon the person of Mrs. Gray, in Mercer county, and they now are fugitives from justice and going at large.

Proclamation by the Governor.

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY, EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT. WHEREAS, IT HAS BEEN MADE KNOWN to me that JOHN SANDERS stands indicted by the Grand Jury for the murder of John E. Gray, and the said JOHN SANDERS is now a fugitive from justice and going at large.

Proclamation by the Governor.

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY, EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT. WHEREAS, IT HAS BEEN MADE KNOWN to me that WM. J. GRAY, JR. did, on the 31st day of September, 1865, in the County of Jefferson, assault and beat JOHN J. WOODFORD, a colored man, in an aggravated manner, and did also commit the crime of robbery and rape upon the person of Mrs. Gray, in Mercer county, and they now are fugitives from justice and going at large.

Proclamation by the Governor.

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GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE.

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY, EXECUTIVE OFFICE, FRANKFORT, KY., December 4th, 1865. Gentlemen of the Senate and House of Representatives: Through the overrulings of a beneficent Providence, to whom we owe profound and reverent thanks, we are now blessed with the auspicious return of peace over a united country, and a restored government.

Every prompting of patriotism commands us to give our united and individual aid to promote and forward that complete Union and harmony so requisite to our progression and happiness, which has been so unfortunately disturbed.

In giving to the state of the Commonwealth, in order to a proper appreciation of our present favorable condition, that you should have a synoptical statement of our condition with the great struggle for the maintenance of our national existence.

Official returns from the various counties of the State show that at the commencement of the rebellion, and before our population was reduced by the war, in the first year 1861, the white males in the State above the age of 21 years numbered 191,391; and white females between the ages of 15 and 45 years, 137,212.

The increase in the number of colored troops above the enrollment is attributable to the fact that regard was not had to age in their enlistment. "Color" was regarded as sufficient qualification.

It will thus be seen that, with a white and black male population between the ages of 20 and 45 years amounting to 328,603, we contributed 23,414 to the armies. Besides the hundreds of Home Guards engaged in local defense throughout the period of the rebellion, we also had in the State service, for various periods, 13,526 militia or State troops, paid and subsisted by the State.

During the pendency of the war our State expended, in aid of the Government in the prosecution of the war, and for which we hold vouchers against the Government of the United States, the sum of \$3,268,224.98. Of this sum we have the following items: Cash received from the Government, \$1,000,000.00; and from other sources, \$2,268,224.98.

years 1861 to 1865, inclusive, it will be seen that there is a reduction in the assessment of taxable property this year of \$109,046.40 below that of 1861. This is accounted for by the destruction of slave property, and from the reduced rates at which property was held at the date of assessment, owing to the insecurity of person and property, as well as to the immense amount of property swept away by the wasting hand of war in the sweep of armies over our State.

The death of James H. Garrard, late Treasurer of Kentucky, devolved upon me the appointment of a successor to fill out the term. Mason Brown, Jr., was appointed to fill out the term, and his record, during his brief administration, brings up the accounts of his predecessor to the time of his death, and his own to the close of the fiscal year, bears ample testimony to his efficiency as Treasurer.

The difficulty of obtaining a proper understanding of the character of this organization has been the obstacle to its successful progress. With the minutest detail of instruction, it has been in some cases impracticable to have the law understood. Instead of looking to the law and to the instructions thereunder, precedent is drawn from the late military organizations, and those who attempt an organization seem to consider it part of their duty to follow the lead of the military organizations.

Each county will organize a company of good men, who will be ever ready to support the civil authorities, to better security can be had. Had this organization of the militia been effected two years ago it would have saved our people from many vexatious and great losses.

The number of disabled and homeless soldiers, who are poor and from disability, prevented from making a subsistence, demands that some provision should be made for them, so as to secure them against want and suffering.

The reports of the Quartermaster General and Adjutant General will be laid before you. During the past year these officers have been over-crowded with press of business, resulting from the muster-out of our soldiers, and the necessary settlements of accounts and claims.

The termination of our civil war has thrown upon us some important questions for adjustment. It is gratifying to know that those who have taken active part in the war of rebellion, as a class, now cheerfully accept the consequences of their action, and are ready to return to their peaceful relations with the Government.

journal, and judicial decisions of sister States, kept in that office, were saved. There were still on hand in that office some 357 copies of Statutes of the Revised Statutes of Kentucky. The greater portion of them were consumed. An account has not yet been taken of the number saved from the burning buildings. All the papers and furniture of the Executive office were saved.

I would recommend to your consideration the propriety of providing by law for keeping insurance upon the public buildings; and also to provide by law for the employment of a night watchman, who, having pass-keys, may pass through all the rooms during the night, and see that they are in safe condition.

Provision should be made more ample for the support of the "Feeble-minded Institute" at Frankfort, the Deaf and Dumb Asylum at Danville, and the Institution for the Blind at Louisville. The public schools, which have been somewhat overlooked during the war, yet have been kept in a highly favorable condition by their respective superintendents.

It is recommended that you make suitable provision to meet the just demand upon the public bounty which the silent, but ever-appealing afflictions of those stricken ones, makes upon the charity of the State.

Under the provisions of "An act to improve the schools of the State," approved February 22, 1865, and to be hereafter known as "The Kentucky University," presents a most favorable opportunity for supplying the defect in our school system, and the need of a higher education.

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tion, to make it a precedent for all time to come. It is understood to have been wisely determined to hand Mr. Davis over to the civil tribunals, where a decision will settle the legal estimate of treason, and determine whether it be treason or a right. This will end the trial of questions by military courts which are properly for civil adjudication, and leave nothing for military courts to determine but questions of military jurisdiction arising under the laws of civilized warfare.

The government of the Union is founded upon the existence of States. The existence of States presupposes State rights. Without the States there could be no United States formed upon the basis of republican government.

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power conferred is to enforce the right to freedom—the right to life, liberty, and property. There is no power to confer other franchises than freedom, and the consequent power to protect that freedom from hostile legislation of States. Hence any law enacted by a State hostile to the freedom guaranteed by the Constitution, would be in conflict therewith, and null and void; and an appropriate remedy may be given through the judicial tribunals to set aside such hostile legislation.

Should any of the recent slave States, for any purpose, attempt to nullify the freedom secured by the Constitution, or should any of the former free States attempt, by hostile legislation, or legislation, to abridge the right of freedom, by prohibiting the migration of the freedmen to such States, all such action will be in conflict with the Constitution, and will be declared null and void.

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